





## THE ELBA CLIPPER

Published Every Thursday Morning  
R. C. Bryan — Owner-Publisher

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July 18, 1905, at the Postoffice  
at Elba, Alabama, under Act  
of Congress of March 3, 1879.

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AIM OF AAA PLAN

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Manganese  
Potash  
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Calcium  
and many more

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## ZOAR NEWS

We are all proud to see some fine weather. The farmers are busy getting ready to start their planting.

Mr. and Mrs. Foy Bryan of Bullock spent Saturday night with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John D. Thomas.

Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Cook of Lee and Mr. and Mrs. Edw. Kelly and family spent Sunday afternoon with their daughter, Mrs. Harold Fuller, at Bluff Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. Wes Tidwell and family spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Coy Miller.

Miss Mildred Maerene Bryan and Blanche Hughes were guests of the night guests of Miss Olive Rushing Saturday night.

Miss Evelyn Sellers of Fairview is spending sometime with her sister, Mrs. Orel Matthews.

Miss Bonnie Lewis Fritchett of Pine Level spent the weekend with Miss Marjorie Cullen.

Misses Alice Lee and Myrtle Kelly spent some time last week with their grandmother, Mrs. D. R. Kelly, of Bluff Springs, who has been ill. We are glad to learn she is improving.

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## KUDZU FROM SEED IS NOW POSSIBLE

AUBURN, Ala.—Auburn agronomist reported this week that kudzu planting stock, which is more satisfactory than crows, can be produced from seed. This statement followed extensive trials carried on throughout the State in growing kudzu from seed. This new project was conducted for the first time on Alabama farms last year.

Seedlings produced from seed are superior to crowns in that they are cheaper, easier to set, and give better stands. In addition, as J. C. Lowery, extension agronomist, points out, if kudzu acreage is to be greatly increased, larger supplies of planting stock must be made available.

"The possibilities of the use of seed is illustrated by the fact that if a farmer is successful with only one pound of seed, he should have 2,000 to 4,000 seedlings for setting on his farm," Lowery said. "This plan would enable him to establish kudzu quickly on all of the land which he has for this purpose. Under the old method of sowing or old crows were necessary for replanting."

He said seed should be planted for the first time in the spring, and time and that 6-8-4 fertilizer should be used. Around 15 pounds of seed are required per acre, and each pound of seed should produce around 3,000 to 4,000 plants.

County Agent J. C. Sexton reports that he can furnish farmers with detailed planting and cultivating plans. Those interested are urged to contact him during the next few weeks for this information.

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Morris Richardson, Wetumpka, Rt. 3, is one of scores of Elmore boys who have been feeding calves this winter in preparation for fat stock shows.

## Planning Helps To Make Most Of Farm Dollar

By NELL PICKENS  
Extension Home Management Specialist

THE new year is well on its way to becoming an old year, but there is still time to make definite plans for the months to come.

All farm families are interested in getting ahead financially. In order to do this it is necessary to look ahead and decide what action is best under particular conditions. Wise management of income, land, time and other resources will yield greater satisfaction if the plan is the result of the knowledge and judgment of all family members. Production and consumption plans, the education of the children, the improvement of the home, recreation and medical care affect the family as a unit and decisions should be reached jointly through family counseling.

Farm families who are familiar with and have some understanding of present day conditions can plan to better advantage their living for the rest of the year. A workable plan will take into consideration the amount of cash that can be used for family living, the amount of products that can be produced on the farm for family use and the price of the goods, and services the family expect to purchase.

The next important step in wise planning is keeping records of farm and home living. A record of income and expenditures may be looked upon as a speedometer, showing how far along the right or wrong road the family has gone.

Expenditures should be planned before spending begins. The spending plan should be supplemented by a home production plan, especially the home production of food. To be really useful, the records and accounts should be separated

under headings as "Food," "Clothing," "Household Operation," "Personal," and so on. This makes it possible to make comparison from one year to another, or in one month with those of the corresponding month of other years. To assist farm families in making their plans and keeping a record the Alabama Extension Service has a special Farm Family Planning and Record Book which may be obtained from the county home demonstration agents.

### Sheep As A Sideline

Sheep raising is proving a profitable sideline on the unit test demonstration farm of A. E. Jacks at New Market in Madison County.

After planting 22 acres of permanent pasture in 1937 Mr. Jacks bought 28 ewes and lambs the following year at a cost of \$100. Since that time he has sold 24 lambs for about \$160 and \$200 worth of wool, making a total income of about \$200.

This progressive farmer is most interested in building up his herd and has been culling and selling undesirable stock and replacing it with registered stock.

He also has a small herd of Aberdeen Angus grade cows and a purebred bull and in addition is making a profit from hogs.

### Cheap Hay Supply

"Kudzu hay can be produced for about \$3 a ton and is as satisfactory as some of the hays which we buy for \$15 a ton," says Herman Roberts, Route 4, Jasper. He points out that in addition his kudzu, which has been in production from five to seven years, is building up his soil and protecting it from erosion. With a special attachment for his mower Mr. Roberts says that he can mow kudzu hay easier than any other type.

Another Walker County farmer, Herbert Taylor, Route 5, Jasper has planted kudzu on a steep hill side and plans to use it as a temporary pasture during the summer.

## Young Farmer's Six-Year Land-Development Plan

MORRIS Johnson, a young farmer, owns and operates a unit test demonstration farm near Cherokee, Alabama. He purchased the farm in October, 1934. At the time it was badly eroded and grown up in bushes, briars and honeysuckle, and the fences were completely torn down. There was no barn on the place, the house needed covering, there was no pasture, and all the land that could be worked was in row crops.

In 1935 he started terracing, and has a very complete and satisfactory system of terraces at the present time. He has worked with "bulldog" determination to conserve the soil, practice proper fertilization and crop rotation, according to County Agent E. P. Garrett. He has brought this farm from a low productivity to a very high yielding one.

The farm record book for 1935 shows the following crops: 13 acres of corn, 10 acres of cotton, 22 acres of soybeans, 4 acres of vetch. He made a bale of cotton to every four acres and his average yield of corn ran 15 bushels to the acre. He is now producing a half sale of cotton to the acre and 30 bushels

of corn.

In the year 1936 he planted 5 acres of permanent pasture and 8 acres of vetch under the TVA fertilizer agreement. During 1937 and 1938 he added the following to his crop system: 7 acres of permanent pasture, 1 acre of alfalfa and 10 acres of vetch. In 1939 he planted 5 acres vetch, 4 acres of alfalfa and 4 acres of sericea lespedeza. He has 15 acres of Korean lespedeza that he has had planted for two years. This makes 35 acres of land that is covered the entire year, leaving 43 acres for row crops in combination with winter legumes.

Since 1934 he has gradually seeded pasture as he could afford it, and at the same time he has built his herd of beef cattle from three to twelve head. Mr. Johnson states that he is interested in the production of beef cattle, and that he finds that pasture and permanent hay crops will enable him to make a nice profit each year.

In addition to changing his cropping system he has built a good barn and poultry house. He states that the income from the farm is going into improvements and some into more livestock to consume the crops growing on the farm.

Three gifts for breeding purposes. Last year they killed two hogs, of which they cured and canned a large portion so they could enjoy delicious fresh meat during the summer. She also canned some beef.

## Teachers Find Time To Raise Food At Home

IN recent years we have bought practically nothing to eat except sugar, coffee, and a few staple groceries," Mrs. Max Shipp advises her fellow-club members in Limestone County. And she explains this unusual situation by pointing to the large supply of healthful food raised at home.

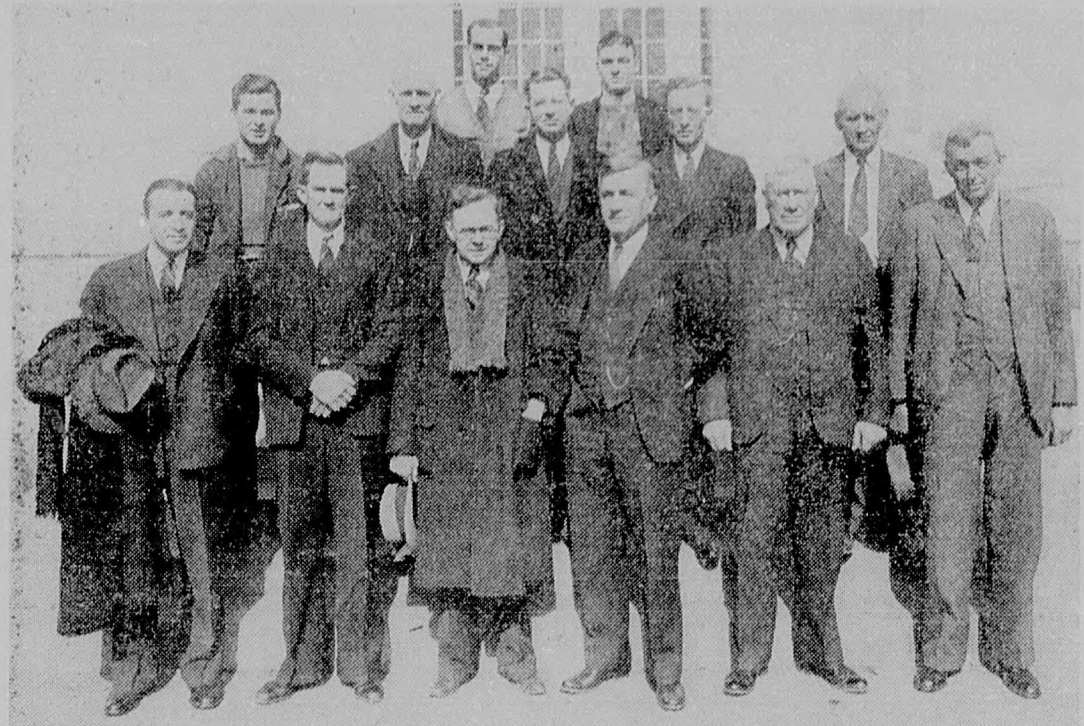
Besides teaching school during the winter Mr. and Mrs. Shipp found time to grow a year round garden from which they had available during most months the green and yellow vegetables so necessary for good nutrition.

During the past year they canned from their surplus between eight and nine hundred quarts of fruits, meats, vegetables, preserves and pickles. She put up 75 bottles of tomato juice, since this takes the place of grapefruit and orange juice in furnishing necessary material to prevent ear, eye, nose and throat infection as well as building up healthy condition of the mouth. On her shelves she also had 15 quarts of Brunswick stew made from chicken.

On the fruit shelf one sees apples, peaches, berries, grape juice, dried fruits, etc., to furnish the two fruits daily.

As another source of food supply the Shipp's have three cows and three young heifers. They get their quart of milk a day and have some left to feed the pigs. They have

Most forest fires are unnecessary. The welfare of future generations depends upon foresight in preserving natural resources.



When Tuscaloosa County's farmers decided that the annual loss from forest fire must be halted, they sought the cooperation of every other group which had an interest in natural resources. Pictured above are members of the county fire prevention committee which included representatives from each community farm bureau and also from other groups which have supported the campaign. Front row, left to right, W. D. Partlow, Jr., who represented a group of Tuscaloosa citizens interested in wildlife conservation and forest resources; D. J. T. Hosmer, Aherant community; Willis Penfield, Gulf States Paper Corporation; Circuit Judge Tom B. Ward, Middle row, Sam Murphy, district forest ranger, Walker County; Virgil Dillard, Coker; Dave Windle, Alabama Power Company, Tuscaloosa; Ozro Hutchins, Cedar Cove; W. S. Barrett, Elrod. Back row, Lambert L. Smith, district forest ranger, Tuscaloosa, and C. E. Teague, assistant county agent, Tuscaloosa.

## TUSCALOOSA COUNTY'S UNITED FRONT AGAINST FOREST FIRES

Farmers Get Cooperation of Industrialists  
Workers and Sportsmen in Halting  
Waste of Natural Resources

By G. M. BEECH

THE highway between Birmingham and Tuscaloosa winds through wooded hills and those who use the highway can see that only a small portion of the land is in cultivation. For the county as a whole, more than four out of every five acres are in woods.

For a number of years passing motorists had talked about the dense smoke which clouded the highway and at times forced traffic to slow down to a snail's pace. It was a matter of convenience to the motorists, but it was far more important to the people of the county whose resources were going up in smoke.

In 1938 an estimated 18 percent of the county's forest land was burned over, and fire took its toll on the business man. Out of order an dthe business man. Out of order an dthe business man. Out of order an dthe business man.

As another source of food supply the Shipp's have three cows and three young heifers. They get their quart of milk a day and have some left to feed the pigs. They have

were to depend. The results speak for themselves. During 1939 only 1.5 percent of the woodland in the county was burned.

In this movement it was the farmer who took the lead. But the farmers were not content to depend upon their own efforts and called upon every group that had an interest in fire prevention to cooperate. Sportsmen who saw in wood fires a threat to wildlife resources joined in. Business men who depend upon farm income and the wages of sawmill and pulp mill workers helped. The Gulf State Paper Corporation and the Alabama Power Company cooperated. Workers in the paper mill participated through their organization.

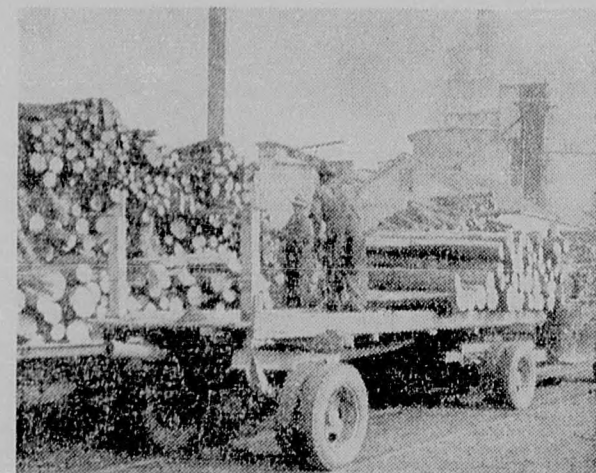
Farmers in Tuscaloosa County have the largest farm bureau membership in the nation and through this organization which reaches into every community a program was outlined. Members of 4-H clubs and home demonstration clubs were also called upon to help.

With the machinery set up the first step was to agree on a program of action. It was decided to begin immediately on a widespread educational campaign without waiting for funds for fire-fighting equipment. County Agent Beverly Holston called upon Rufus Page, Jr., extension forester, to meet with committeemen from community farm bureaus and representatives of other groups to plan an educational campaign.

Once the education program was underway, Brooks Toler, state forester, outlined a plan for erecting fire towers in strategic locations in the county. The WPA has made possible the beginning of construction on these towers, and permanent ground crews trained in forest fire work will be located near the towers when construction is completed.

District Forest Ranger Sam Murphy, stationed in adjoining Walker County, and Lambert Smith, Tuscaloosa, have been coordinating the fire-tower systems in the area.

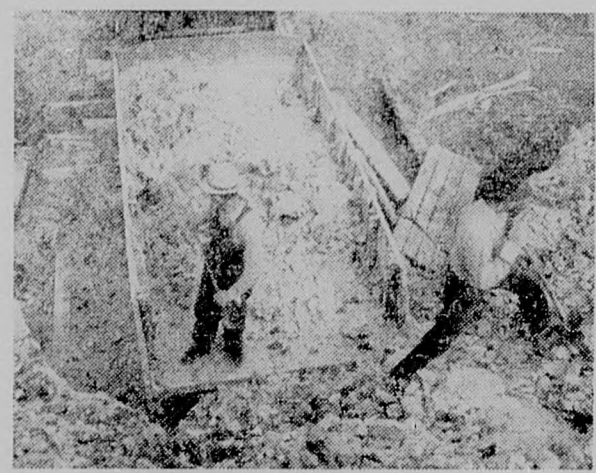
Landowners took advantage of new state legislation which sets up a system of self-taxation under



Unloading pulpwood to be made into paper.



Employees of the paper mill joined the campaign to protect trees and jobs.



Loading lime sludge, a by-product of the paper mill useful in pasture building.

which landowners pay two cents an acre for fire prevention work. Farm bureau members "sold" their neighbors on fire prevention and saw to it that anti-fire laws were clamped down on those who still insisted on "burning off" woods without thinking of neighbors on surrounding land.

County Agent Beverly Holston and Rufus Page, Jr., of the extension service, believe that Tuscaloosa County farmers have an excellent opportunity to develop a sound system of "cropping" timber and selling thinnings for pulpwood.

Members of 4-H clubs in the county planted 20,000 trees and helped to convince schoolmates that every boy and girl in the county had an interest in fire prevention.

The Gulf States Paper Corporation and the Alabama Power Company aided by coordinating their own fire fighting machinery with the program of individual landowners.

Paper mill workers constructed

(Continued on Page 7)



## Making The Most Out Of Fertilizer Is Problem

By DONALD L. ROBERTSON  
Agricultural Extension Editor

WONDER what my fertilizer will cost me this year?

Many of the more than 275,000 Alabama farmers have already started to asking themselves that question—some weeks before work begins in the fields for major crops which require fertilizer.

Yes, fertilizer still remains the biggest single cost item in crop production in Alabama. The consumption of fertilizer has dropped below 400,000 tons annually only eleven times in the past 30 years. Several seasons the tonnage has exceeded 500,000 tons.

J. C. Lowery, agronomist of the Extension Service of Alabama Polytechnic Institute tells us that Alabama uses about seven per cent of all of the fertilizers sold in the United States and that farm families have to take out each fall from their crop income approximately 10 to 15 million dollars for fertilizers.

What to do about it? Lowery said a number of things can be done to help reduce the cost, but he adds that all commercial fertilizer cannot be eliminated because satisfactory crop yields cannot be made on Alabama soils without it. He adds that the more pressing problem today, with low farm incomes general in Alabama, is to reduce this annual bill as much as possible and to make sure the fertilizers that are purchased are the most efficient kind.

"The big job in education work which we agricultural workers must do is to help farmers to understand how to buy fertilizers on the basis of their plant food content," Lowery says. At present they buy fertilizers on the basis of lowest price per ton, the brand name, odor, or some other similar basis.

"Farmers still demand fertilizers carrying organic sources of nitrogen, thinking in terms of animal or vegetable sources. Most grades carry a small amount of vegetable or animal organics and use synthetic organics as a large part of the guaranteed organic content. Farmers should demand inorganic sources of nitrogen at inorganic values.

Lowery said it had been estimated that more than 30,000 tons of low grade phosphates were sold last season at prices far in excess of their plant food value. Further there is a loss of around \$125,000 sustained annually by Alabama farmers through the use of 16 per cent in place of 20 per cent superphosphate.

The long time goal as far as legume acreage is concerned is to plant 2,500,000 acres. The short time goal with winter legumes is to help farmers understand the need to plant at the proper time, to apply a sufficient amount of phosphate and lime, and to turn effectively at the proper time.

Trials in seed production of crimson clover, Williamette vetch, and a hairy vetch which will help to

reduce the annual expense of purchasing winter legume seed are other phases of the Extension Service program in Alabama. Crimson clover is very subject to weather changes but preliminary trials with Williamette vetch show it to be promising as a seed producing variety. Some farmers have been saving hairy vetch seed fairly successfully in North Alabama but this practice has been limited through Alabama generally.

Lowery urges farmers to drop around this spring and discuss soil conditions and the type of fertilizer they plan to buy with their county agent before buying. Agents can give farmers a few pointers in what to look for in buying fertilizers. Buying on a plant food basis this year instead of "what you have been buying" will pay dividends at the end of the year when yields are balanced against the fertilizer cost, he believes.

## Walker Family Has All-Round Home Program

NO grass grows under the feet of Mrs. J. S. Spears, active member of the Thach Home Demonstration Club in Walker County. Mrs. Spears is busy all of the time making her home more comfortable and attractive, with as few expenditures as possible, says Frances Mann, assistant home demonstration agent.

Recently she has made many improvements, starting with her kitchen. First, she rearranged it, adding built-in cabinets and an extra window. She painted her walls a light cream color in order to have sufficient light; next, she covered her floor with linoleum and added running water.

Mrs. Spears is also carrying out a result demonstration in the living room of her home, and is landscaping the home grounds. Since December she has added these items to her living room: a studio couch which she made herself, and an indirect floor lamp. She has rearranged her furniture, and is planning to get new curtains, paint the floor and upholster two chairs.

Mrs. Spears is following the advice of Homer Fisher, Extension Landscape Gardener, in landscaping the farm home grounds. She is moving some of the tall shrubbery to the back of the house to use for screening purposes. This is being replaced by smaller evergreens. She has rooted her own shrubbery from small cuttings which were given her. She hopes to paint her home this spring.

On Spears' 120-acre farm they have two and one-half acres in an



J. C. Bailey, extreme right, first farmer in Alabama to sign a district soil conservation contract, is proud of this stand of timber which has not been burned in 20 years. His farm is located in the Piedmont district at Wadley. Shown with him are a group of soil conservation officials.

## No Hybrid Corn Proven For Alabama Conditions

REPORTS of sensational corn yields from hybrid varieties in corn belt states have caused many Alabama farmers to discuss the possibility of increasing yields in this state from this new development.

Unfortunately agronomists in Alabama have found that hybrid corn is not a magic road to success for the Alabama farmer seeking a way to get bigger corn yields. Developing a hybrid corn variety is a highly technical matter and requires a long period of years, and must be done by experienced corn producers. Most important of all breeding must be done in the locality in which the corn is to be grown. This means that hybrids developed in one soil belt will not give best results when planted in

other Southern states have also been doing extensive work on hybrids and it has been found that some of the breeds tested mature at an early date that the grain is of very poor quality. Weevils and other pests also attack these varieties and cause more damage than in common breeds.

Backed by these experiments Alabama authorities are advising that farmers in this state continue using tested varieties until hybrids are developed for their own locality.

George Washington usually kept about 700 or 800 head of sheep, and so improved the breed that, at the shearing of 1789, his fleeces averaged 54 pounds of wool, while those of his neighbors averaged only about two pounds.



Along the Way  
with P. O. DAVIS  
Success Of Roper Family  
Points Way To  
Progress

IN Calhoun County, Alabama, there is a father and son farming combination that appeals to me, for many reasons. They are L. C. and L. E. Roper whose farm is near the Calhoun-Elowah line. In 1939, they had a cash income of \$2700, or \$225 per month, or \$7.50 for each day in the year. They did almost all of their work.

These facts are revealed by their books, recording their one-year income as follows: Cotton, \$500; sweet potatoes, \$500; milk and butter, \$250; hogs and pork products, \$250; two dairy heifers, \$75; and miscellaneous vegetables, \$125.

In addition to this cash income they had another important income in the form of food and feed for themselves and their livestock and fertility for their soil. These, of course, amounted to several hundred dollars above their cash income.

In analyzing their cash income we see that cotton and sweet potatoes each gave them a payday once a year; milk and butter, a daily payday; hogs and pork products, several paydays; and vegetables, a weekly payday, or oftener.

With income throughout the year they were able to operate on a cash basis. They paid as they spent in accordance with their needs. Hence, they didn't pay a lot of interest on credit for operations.

Another important fact is that they were productively employed every day. Had they produced only cotton for sale they would have been productively employed only about half of the year and almost idle the other half. Instead of this they were working, producing, and selling daily.

And they were consuming daily the food products of their farm, garden and home. Then, too, they were feeding their livestock.

They were also improving their soil. In his report about them County Agent Guy Hood speaks of their pasture improvement, of their legumes, and of other things. This means that their soil-depleting crops were being offset by soil-building crops; and their soil was being conserved.

The Ropers, in my judgement, are an excellent example of good farmers under Alabama conditions. They are not theorizing; they are demonstrating in a practical way. What they have done many others can do because they are practical and they are successful.

Another fine lesson that we can get from them is that of a father-son partnership. In this they are another example of the fact that wherever people cooperate wealth is created. All of us will profit by studying the Ropers and their work.

## Better Homes Campaign Will Be Big Event

What can the Alabama farm family do to make its home more livable?

This is a question that all rural Alabama will be thinking about during Better Homes Week, April 28 to May 3. Plans are already underway to inaugurate a widespread campaign on home improvement.

Hunter Golson, president of the Alabama Press Association and publisher of the Wetumpka Herald, says that "Many papers throughout the state are making plans to feature Better Homes in special sections during that week."

More than 30,000 active home demonstration club women will be working in 11,000 communities to make this year's program outstanding, according to Elma McGaugh, state home demonstration leader. Many county groups are planning clean-up campaigns to precede Better Homes Week. In connection

with the county campaign, tours will be made to homes which have made outstanding improvement records.

The Alabama observance will be part of the Better Homes in America movement which was begun 17 years ago.

### Kudzu Pioneer

"The pioneer of permanent hay-growing in Franklin County."

That is the distinction which is due D. F. Lovelace of Hodges, who planted an acre of kudzu back in 1912. At that time 600 crowns cost him three cents each.

Now he has 12 acres of good kudzu and believes that "if it had been allowed to spread on all sides there would be 100 acres."

"I saved 20 tons of good hay this year from the plot and it brought \$15.00 a ton or a total of \$300.00," Mr. Lovelace reports.

George Washington, "father of our country," developed a very good strain of wheat, and claimed that the flour made in his mills, for shipment to plantations in the West Indies, was as good in quality as any produced in America.



Mrs. A. H. Finlay and her two sons are shown in the one-acre forest which she started with "pine needle baskets."

## A Forest From Pine Baskets--

By RUFUS PAGE  
Extension Forester

IN a round-about way a pine forest has grown from a group of pine needle baskets. Back in 1926 Mrs. A. H. Finlay, who lives near Ashland in Clay County, was one of the group of farm women who made pine needle baskets. During three years, before the depression, 500 women in the county sold a total of \$33,000 worth of baskets, selling \$1,800 worth in one day.

When the cooperative, which had been set up to distribute the baskets, disbanded Mrs. Finlay took a bunch of left over cones and scattered them over an area near her home. She hoped that the seed would germinate and produce trees which would serve as a wind-

break for her home. But she had no idea that this one act would result in the pine forest which stands today on about an acre of ground. The trees on the spot at present average eight inches in diameter and 30 feet in height.

The Finlays are renters and this "Little Pine Forest," of which they are rightfully proud, has inspired them and the owner of the farm to plant additional idle land to pine trees.

During the days of the "basket making industry," Mrs. Finlay purchased furniture for her home and many other things from the proceeds of the handicraft sales but today she considers the pine forest her best piece of "pine needle basket work."

## The Jack-Of-All-Trades Crop

NO other crop has as many uses as kudzu. While it has gained widest attention for its soil-building and soil-protecting qualities, kudzu also makes an excellent hay crop.

Some of the tested results with kudzu show:

1. The average yield of kudzu at Auburn during the past 20 years has been more than two tons of hay per acre.
2. Cows will produce well on kudzu pasture without supplementary feed if the pasture is not overstocked—that is, not more than one cow per acre.
3. Hogs which are grazed on kudzu and fed supplement of tankage and corn gain more than hogs which are raised on kudzu alone.
4. Kudzu makes an acceptable green feed for laying hens.
5. When other crops followed kudzu stands there were striking increases. In the spring of 1930, kudzu was planted at the Prattville

and Aliceville Fields for studying its effect on the fertility of the soil. The land used was very poor and produced only seven to 19 bushels of corn per acre without fertilizer. The kudzu was plowed up in the spring of 1925 and the land has been planted to corn each year since that date. The five-year average yield at Prattville was 34 bushels and at Aliceville 30 bushels. The results show that the kudzu had markedly improved the fertility of the soil as reflected in the yields of corn.

In the United States nearly one-half of the cultivated land is in clean cultivation and row crops, but in France and England, countries with longer agricultural experience, only a little more than one-fourth of the cultivated soils are in clean cultivation. And European nations with small land areas have tremendous populations.



## "The Rural South" Adopted As Text In Alabama Schools

By G. M. BEECH  
Editor, Rural Alabama

STUDENTS in Alabama high schools will soon be studying themselves and their neighbors in "The Rural South," a book by Samuel Lee Chesnut which has recently been adopted for use in this state. The book is an interesting and readable study of the rural South, its history, its resources and its problems.

In the foreword, Prof. Chesnut, who is professor of agricultural education at Auburn, addresses the youth of the South:

"There is a burden laid upon the youth of the Southland. It is the responsibility that comes with seeing more clearly than past generations have the elements both favorable and unfavorable to our country's growth—the responsibility of recognizing the value of these factors and their relation to each other; of perpetuating such as are sound and discarding those that are destructive; of thinking out and putting into effect such plans as will help maintain the heritage which has come down to them; and of carrying forward the great American experiment of building a sound democracy. This book is written with the hope that it may in some measure help bring to boys and girls such a vision."

The author begins with a picture of this country as early settlers found it and traces the uses that have been made of land and resources. He shows that our civilization is now facing a test that all others in the past have faced. That is, we have gone through the pioneering stage and have exploited our resources and paid little attention to the conservation and preservation of our soil.

The importance of taking stock of what we have and using it to best advantage is stressed. The effects of the War Between the States, the World War and the depression on rural life are described. Much of the book is devoted to the efforts now being made to rehabilitate the people and restore the land so that it can be made to produce an abundance.

In several chapters the problem of the landless farmer is discussed and the question asked: Are we heading for a form of serfdom similar to that which is established in Europe? It is pointed out that both our economic system and our democracy depend upon a system of agriculture under which family life can be stable and not constantly "on the move."

The book also includes a clear outline of the relation of industry to agriculture and an account of how rural welfare and city welfare are linked.

This is one of the first textbooks to give a realistic picture of progress in rural education and the problems which are still to be met in providing farm boys and girls with educational opportunities. Rural health problems are also discussed.

The final chapters of Prof. Chesnut's book deal with the work of

various governmental agencies and their programs. The Alabama student will see many familiar scenes in the attractive illustrations, some of which are photographs. But he will look at many things which he has seen before in a new light, and will find in them a challenge to develop a more intelligent and more vigorous type of citizenship and leadership.

The adoption of this book represents one more step toward the goal of directing the attention of education to problems and possibilities that are close at home. Educational leaders in the state are alert to use every means of making classroom study more vital and more interesting and to show the relation between education and human welfare in the community.

Prof. Chesnut, who has worked for a number of years on "The Rural South" has made a vital contribution in this direction. He is due the thanks of thousands of students who will find new interest in their studies, of teachers who will be enabled to do a better job and of the people as a whole who will know that through this book future generations of Alabamians will be better prepared to accept the responsibilities of citizenship in a democracy.

The book is published by the Dixie Book Co., Montgomery, and is one of a series written by Alabamians and adopted for use in state schools.

## Making Success Of Truck Crops

AS a rule the gardens in Marion County do not give their owners much cash profit due to the fact that no ready market is near and the shipping and trucking facilities are so poor that it is not wise to send products to distant markets. However, a few wide-awake and industrious gardeners are realizing very nice profits from their gardens, according to Eugenia Richards, home agent. She cites as an example the following information from Mrs. Annie Palmer, Rt. 2, Hamilton:

"We began planting in January and continued planting as we thought best. I kept a special account of greens and turnips sold. On June 1 my account showed that I had sold \$31.78 worth. The fertilizer and seed cost approximately \$3.00. Since these products require so little work, I feel that the \$28.78 was practically all clear profit."

"My beans paid well, especially our late fall crop in early spring crop. The mid-summer crop was not so good due to the dry weather."

"By close figuring, we find that our garden of three and one-half acres has paid between five and six times more profit than our cotton and the cotton required twice the amount of work our garden required."



S. L. CHESNUT

## More Livestock In Lauderdale

IN Northwest Alabama there has been a rapid increase in livestock production but Lauderdale's County Agent, A. H. Barnett, says that the demand for livestock at the Florence market each Tuesday exceeds the supply.

He also points out that farmers who have been employed only part of the year producing cotton can find worthwhile work in improving their pastures and producing livestock.

County Agent Barnett recommends the following in beginning a pasture program and in qualifying for soil building allowances: For best results use 200 pounds of triple superphosphate and either 4000 pounds lime or 6000 pounds calcium silicate as a fertilizer; three pounds Dallis grass, five Orchard grass, five blue grass, one white Dutch clover, four common lespedeza and seven Korean lespedeza should be sown on prepared land about the first of March. Apply phosphate and lime as soon as you can plow the land.

## The Finished Product

Milk, butter and eggs are produced at home by Mrs. Milton Livingston, Rt. 1, Akron. But she does not sell these products in the usual manner—when they reach the customer they are cakes. During 1939 Mrs. Livingston sold almost 100 cakes a month on the Greensboro curb market.

"Of course it took some time each week to bake the cakes, but I thoroughly enjoyed it," she says. "The \$422.65 I earned from the sale of cakes, pies, buttermilk, pork, canned food, and vegetables was so much more than we earned from cotton, in fact more than tripled that income."

How is your garden? Thumbing through your favorite seed catalog may be fun, but you won't have vegetables on your table this spring and summer unless you put seed in the ground.

## School Lunches Easier To Fix Cooperatively

MOTHERS in the neighborhood of Wiggins school in Conecuh County, are working together on a job which they formerly did as individuals—preparing the school lunch. The home demonstration club located in the community started the project last summer. The members held a meeting and brought home grown vegetables and canned their surplus foods to be used at the school during the winter.

Mrs. Annie Travis, the principal of the school and also a member of the club, was active in securing grants of surplus foods held by the Government to increase the supply available. A room was equipped for preparing and serving hot lunches to 60 pupils in the school.

Mothers in the community have worked out a schedule for cooking and serving meals and two of them are on hand at the noon hour each day. While the project has involved some hard work, it is pointed out that those cooperating save the time that would be required to fix lunches for each family. Another advantage is that the children have a hot meal and a healthier meal than they would have if each took a cold lunch.

## Abandoned Land Now Makes Profit

By H. P. JOHNSON  
Troy, Rt. 4

IN 1936 with the assistance of the Soil Conservation Camp I planted 12 acres of kudzu on my farm. This kudzu was planted on land which had been abandoned, due to eroded conditions, and was not suited for row crops at all. It was a complete loss in my farm operations.

This year, in its third growing season, this kudzu has completely covered the land, and in the fall when dry weather reduced the grazing in permanent pasture I grazed four head of workstock, 25 head of hogs, and 15 head of cattle on this land.

If it had not been for this 12 acres of kudzu, I would have been forced to feed my livestock due to shortage of grass in my permanent pasture. I figured this 12 acres of kudzu is the most important crop on my farm. I am sure it is worth \$50.00 per acre to me now.

The 12 acres of kudzu has been taken care of during the first two years and was fertilized with 400 pounds of 16 percent superphosphate. The fact that the agricultural conservation program has been paying \$6 per acre for planting kudzu has been a big help to farmers in this county, and I believe that every farmer in the county would find it worth his while to put in a few acres of kudzu.

## Building Couch Leads To Three Extra Rooms

A STUDIO couch, to provide an extra bed, resulted in three extra rooms being built onto the home of Mrs. Green Jordan, of the Cross Roads Community in Baldwin County.

Since Mrs. Jordan does not live on a cotton farm, she found it necessary to provide some method of raising the amount of money required for materials to make the studio couch. She immediately thought of the returns from her flock of chickens and started saving from the egg sales. However, this amount was not sufficient as all the materials for the couch had to be bought. The next money making scheme was to dig five rows of red potatoes which had been planted early and were sold for a good price. The total cost of the studio couch material was \$14.00 and of this amount potatoes brought \$7.50 and hens \$6.50.

Due to crowded conditions in the home, Mr. Jordan thought it wise to build the needed rooms before providing new furniture. They agreed that if Mrs. Jordan could raise the funds for the studio couch alone, Mr. Jordan would build the three extra rooms.

The studio couch was made in October at the regular meeting of the Cross Roads home demonstration club and when it was brought to the Jordan home it made cramped living quarters. However, Mr. Jordan kept his part of the bargain and in December added the three extra rooms. In making this report, Mrs. Jordan says, "It goes to prove that if we club women want anything bad enough, we can find a way to get it."

## Cotton To Peaches

Several years ago W. D. Reeves of Sulligent, Star Route, decided that he could not expect cotton to continue to provide the kind of living for his family that he would like and that diversification was necessary.

With this in mind he started a small commercial peach orchard to supply his home needs and have the surplus to sell as an additional source of income. During 1939 Mr. Reeves had 27 trees of bearing age which produced 130 bushels of peaches and brought him a net profit of \$180. This was in addition to supplying all his home needs. He also has 115 trees that will come into production during the coming season and 125 trees that will start bearing in about two years.

The success that Mr. Reeves has experienced is directly a result of good management and careful attention to his trees. He is following experimental information provided by S. J. Gibbs, vocational teacher at Sulligent and by the Extension Service.



Merchants and citizens in Greenville are backing the program of Butler County's Negro Agent, Elliot Robbins, to interest Negro farm families in better livestock production. Shown above is a picture of a recent celebration when 31 Negro 4-H boys were given purchased hogs. T. M. Campbell, field agent for Negro extension work, is shown speaking to the large crowd. Picture courtesy The Greenville Advocate.

## Small Farmer Learns Hens Will Produce Good Profit

By J. R. McKEVEY  
Eagle Creek Community,  
Tallapoosa County

I LIVE on a small farm of 30 acres in the Eagle Creek community. My total tilled land is only 46.7 acres. My yield, I suppose, is considerably above the average for the county and is a little above the average for this community.

My farm is well terraced and in good farming condition, but even under these conditions it would almost be impossible for me to make a living for myself and my family and send my children to school on the cotton I produce. I produce annually at least 300 pounds of lint cotton per acre which is the allotment allowed under the AAA program. My acreage allotment is 13 acres, making a total of 4,007 pounds of lint cotton or approximately 8 bales. This lint cotton figured at 8 cents per pound is only \$321.36 gross income. My average price was a little better than that this year but not enough to mention.

I have been hearing, for several years, quite a little about poultry and about how it could be made a worth while farm enterprise, and my trip to the Pine Mountain Valley Farms sponsored by the Dadeville Kiwanis Club, pretty thoroughly sold me on the project. Last January I called on the county extension personnel for assistance and secured blue-prints and bulletins for poultry buildings, including a brooder house and laying houses. I erected these buildings just as near like the specifications as I could and then on February 28, 1939, I purchased 500 baby chicks.

This is my financial statement up-to-date on this poultry project:

Expenses	
500 baby chicks	\$ 45.00
Laying and brooder house	165.37
Corn from my crib	67.80
Feed and equipment	256.66
Total cost	\$534.83
Assets	
Sale of fryers	\$ 55.62
Culled hens	13.20
Sale of eggs	369.59
185 hens on hand, 75c each	138.75
Poultry and brooder house after deducting 10% for depreciation	148.84
300 fryers grown out on the yard from feed purchased and included in above statement, valued at 25c each	75.00
Total Assets	\$806.00

Net earnings from project after deducting all cost and 10% on poultry houses for depreciation

\$271.17  
I would like for our farmer friends to compare the gross income of the poultry flock of \$806.00, with the gross income from the cotton crop of \$321.36 and I will leave it to you as to which one paid the greatest net profit. As a farmer, I would be greatly benefited if more of my neighboring farmers would go into the poultry business, making it possible for us to secure better sales for our poultry products.

## Canning In Bullock

Bullock County home demonstration club members canned 33,310 quarts of foods last year which they valued at more than \$13,000. The biggest portion of this amount was fruits, vegetables, and meats. These women are now convinced that they can produce and preserve foods with high nutritive value, according to Bernice Slaughter, home agent.

## Native Shrubs Help Make Home More Beautiful

WOMEN who are interested in improving the appearance of farm homes can find many native plants that can be used as shrubbery.

Mrs. Curtis Poole, a member of the London home demonstration club in Conecuh County, has been enthusiastic over the possibilities of making the farm home more beautiful. She and her husband made a hot bed from boards left over from the building of their home and an old pane glass window under which they kept the young cuttings during the cold months.

Enough shrubbery has been grown to completely landscape the yards and several neighbors have been provided with shrubbery.

Mr. Poole has become very fond of Camellias and has grown 100 bushes for which he has been offered \$3 apiece.

## Forest Fires

(Continued from Page 3)

fire prevention floats to be used in parades, helped prepare exhibits and conducted an intensive educational program.

The Sportsmen's Club, in addition to providing funds for some of the work, was carrying the message of fire prevention to the people in town.

The reduction of fires from 18 percent down to 1.5 percent has not satisfied those who are determined to protect the county's resources, homes and jobs. The goal is to see to it that not a single acre of Tuscaloosa woodland is burned over by a fire which could have been prevented or stopped.



Page Eight

THIS MONTH IN ALABAMA

March, 1940

## Progressive Farmer First To Sign District Contract

By BARRINGTON KING  
ONE of the first Alabama farmers to sign a cooperative agreement in the soil conservation districts program was J. C. Bailey, who owns a 100-acre farm near Wadley in Chambers County.

After special planning meetings three soil conservation districts have been set up covering 32,000 acres and conservation plans have been mapped for 156 farms. In these districts farmers will be given aid in planning a coordinated drainage system for the entire area.

The ups and downs that Bailey has experienced on his farm since 1920 are typical of the experiences of the average Alabama farmer during that period. After the World War he came back from overseas in 1919 and arrived too late to make a crop that year. He started farming in 1920 from scratch, as a one-horse farmer without equipment and living in a log cabin.

With high hopes of 50-cent cotton Bailey put everything he had into a big crop but instead of 50-cents, cotton dropped and Bailey dropped with it. In 1923 he borrowed \$800 and laid the foundation for a long, steady build toward independence.

By hard work and good management Bailey and his wife have greatly improved the appearance of the farm, having replaced the log cabin with a neat new house. Much of his land which was formerly in cotton is today in lespedeza. Four strapping boys help with the farm work, while a fifth, Jack, is a freshman at Auburn.

He has made a good beginning with livestock and has five mules and a mare, 15 cows, two brood sows and 125 hens.

Fighting erosion and trying to make a living at the same time has been a full time job on the farm and Bailey hasn't got erosion licked yet. But when the Piedmont Soil Conservation District was organized, he didn't lose any time making application to the district supervisors for help in conserving the soil on his farm. That's how he happened to be the first cooperator in Alabama's first dry organized soil conservation district.

As is the case with most farmers, any plan worked out for the control of erosion on Bailey's farm had to take into consideration what he as a farmer was able to do as well as the needs of his farm as an operating unit. That meant that planning technicians in the Piedmont District, in working out a conservation program for his farm, must fit the program to the farm needs. And that is exactly what farm plans in the district program are designed to do.

His farm requires a lot of feed so the plan provides for corn, small grain, hay and pasture to meet these needs.

Bailey will begin his pasture improvement program by clearing up brush and trees on one acre of bottom land which, along with another 4.5 acres of bottomland, will be fertilized, limed, and seeded to common lespedeza, Dutch grass, and white Dutch clover. Forty-five rods of pasture fence will be built, 15 acres of steep and severely eroded land will be retired to trees, and proper woodland management practices will be established on five acres of old woodland.

Only the land best adapted to cultivation will remain in row crops and it will be protected by modern terraces, strip cropping, contour tillage, and systematic rotations which will improve as well as conserve the soil. The sugar, corn, and soybean crops will be planted on the more erodible, and idle land will be converted to perennial hay crops or trees, which will not only protect the soil, but provide additional income.

The plan provides for establishing seed patches of crimson and white Dutch clover to provide a source of home-grown seed for winter cover crops and pasture improvement. In 1940, Bailey will plant 15 acres of kudzu and lespedeza sericea in meadow strips, disposal areas, and perennial strips in his cultivated land. He will also plant kudzu on around 3,000 feet of road banks, to prevent the banks from washing.

Spread out over a five-year period, establishment of the new farming program will not be difficult. He has prospects of increasing the carrying capacity of pastures, which may be expected as a result of fertilizing, seeding, and other practices. He is also planning to increase yields of crops through improved rotations, and to increase hay production from meadows and other perennial hay strips, and the seeding of an additional 35 acres after carefully preparing the land in advance.

## EXPERIMENT STATION

(Continued from Page 1)

have had the station at Headland pointing the way in the development of that section's hog and peanut program. In recent months the station announced the results of tests which showed that serious soil depletion follows constant harvesting of peanuts. On the other hand, similar tests proved that when peanuts were "hogged off" the soil was not damaged.

In Baldwin County the Experiment Station, State Department of Agriculture and Extension Service have been cooperating in seed promise savings of thousands of dollars to South Alabama farmers. Before these tests were started farmers bought seed from the Midwest which varied in production from 50 to 300 bushels per acre, and the individual farmer did not know whether seed were worth planting until he got ready to dig his crop.

On Sand Mountain, one of the last areas in Alabama to be settled, the station has concentrated on aiding in developing a balanced farm program for the average

## Home-Made Rugs

Making home-made rugs is claiming the interest of 550 Walker County home demonstration club members. The rugs are being made from all types of materials, including tow sacks and rags. Some of the members are making hooked rugs, other crocheted, woven rugs or the type made on a rug loom.

Discarded dresses, shirts, skirts, blankets, sheets, etc., are being turned into attractive rugs. The popularity of rug-making in Walker County is another evidence of the goal of Alabama farm families in making their homes more attractive.

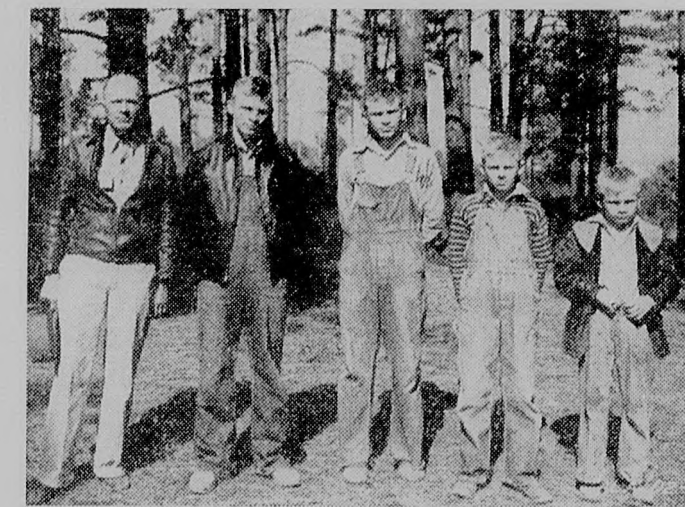
farmer—better cotton and corn yields, supplemented by livestock.

Pasture development, general crops and livestock are being stressed at the Tennessee Valley station.

Despite the importance of the



Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Bailey, center, who live near Wadley in Chambers County, sign a contract to participate in the Piedmont Soil Conservation District program. O. C. Medlock, left, is state coordinator of the Soil Conservation Service and H. C. Appleton, right, is district conservationist.



Four Bailey sons, shown above with their father, have an interest in building up the family farm. Standing next to Mr. Bailey is Jack, 19, a student at Auburn; Bob, 17; Bill, 15, a U. H. club member; and Fred, 10.

## ALABAMA AAA HANDBOOK

Copies of the Alabama Handbook, the 1940 agricultural conservation program are being distributed to all farmers. Those who have not seen a copy of these regulations which explain how AAA allowances may be earned may get one by enquiring at the office of the county agent.

Goals that are stressed in the program for Alabama this year are soil building, erosion control and the production of food and feed crops for home use.

"We believe that every farmer will find it to his advantage to study this handbook in order that he may earn every possible allowance," says A. W. Jones, state administrative officer of the AAA.

"farmer's laboratory," Dean Funchess points out that the cost is small to the nation.

## Elba's First Annual Poultry Show Draws Wide Interest; Prize Winners Are Listed

The first annual Elba poultry show and two-day poultry school was held Friday and Saturday. Winners chosen from 61 entries were: S. O. Parker, grand champion hen (white leghorn); H. C. Moore, grand champion hen (R. I. Red); G. H. Messick, grand champion male bird (New Hampshire red). First place on white shell eggs went to W. W. Moore, with J. C. Jones winning on brown shelled eggs.

The meeting Friday afternoon featured a program on poultry held in connection with the Coffee County Council of Workers at their regular monthly meeting. The following flock owners gave reports on cash income received from poultry during the past few months: A. J. Weeks, M. Tomberlin, H. H. Fuller and H. C. Moore.

Mr. R. B. Jones, chief of the poultry division, State Department of Agriculture, Montgomery, and A. A. Middleton, assistant State poultry inspector, made talks on the national poultry improvement plan, together with some unique features of the Alabama plan, and also the hatchery.

Among the out-of-county visitors at the afternoon meeting were: Mr. R. B. Cammack, State supervisor of agricultural education; Miss Katherine Forney, supervisor of home economics education; Miss Katherine Dietz, regional educational director of the Farm Security Administration, all of Montgomery, and "Dad" Sims, State 4-H Club leader, Auburn.

"Using Poultry as a Means to Increase Cash Income on the Farm" and "The Selection and Care of Hatching Eggs" were topics discussed by Mr. Jones and Mr. Middleton at the Friday meeting.

Some 30 flock owners of the Elba area are cooperating under the Alabama and national poultry improvement plan and these men and women, together with a large number of other prospective poultry producers, attended the two-day poultry school. Plans were made for the purchasing of a number of R. O. P. male birds to put in the breeding flocks another year.

The meeting and show was held in the vocational building of Elba High School and was under the supervision of the vocational work-study of the Elba area. More than \$75 in prizes were donated to the show by the merchants and business men of Elba.

The following flock owners of Elba area are cooperating with the State and national poultry improvement plan: Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Maddox, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. McCall, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Messick, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Meeks, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Fleming, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Dana Perdue, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Harper, Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Dobbins, Mr. and Mrs. C. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Rhodes, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Stroud, Billy Walsh, Miss Donie Floyd, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Sam McCollough, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Howell, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. English, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Helms, Mr. and Mrs. C. Gautney and Mr. and Mrs. George Collier.

The following is a list of the prize winners at the First Elba Poultry Show:

I. Rhode Island Reds  
A. Best Pen  
1st—100 pounds of laying mash and 2 tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—H. C. Moore.  
2nd—\$1.50 trade certificate and 2 tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—Elba F. P. A.

3rd—One box of Dr. LeGarde's Poultry Prescription and two tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—P. B. Taylor.  
B. Best Hen or Pullet  
1st—50 pounds of laying mash and 2 tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—H. C. Moore.  
2nd—\$1.00 trade certificate.  
—P. B. Taylor.

3rd—One year subscription to American Poultry Journal.  
—J. L. Howell.  
II. Barred Plymouth Rocks  
A. Best Pen  
1st—100 pounds of laying mash and 2 tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—Dana Perdue.  
2nd—\$1.50 trade certificate and 2 tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—P. B. Taylor.

3rd—One year subscription to American Poultry Journal.  
—J. L. Howell.  
III. White Plymouth Rocks  
A. Best Pen  
1st—100 pounds of laying mash and 2 tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—Billy Walsh.  
2nd—\$1.50 trade certificate and 2 tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—J. C. Jones.

3rd—One year subscription to American Poultry Journal.  
—J. L. Howell.  
IV. New Hampshire Reds  
A. Best Pen  
1st—100 pounds of laying mash and 2 tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—F. E. Meeks.  
2nd—\$1.50 trade certificate and 2 tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—T. L. Maddox.

3rd—One book of Poultry House Blue Prints and two tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—P. B. Taylor.  
B. Best Hen or Pullet  
1st—50 pounds of laying mash and 2 tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—Dana Perdue.  
2nd—\$1.00 trade certificate.  
—J. C. Jones.

3rd—One year subscription to American Poultry Journal.  
—J. L. Howell.  
V. Miscellaneous Class (White Wyandottes, White Giants and Light Brahmans)  
A. Best Pen  
1st—100 pounds of laying mash and 2 tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—Dana Perdue.  
2nd—\$1.50 trade certificate and 2 tickets to Elba Theatre.  
—P. B. Taylor.

3rd—One year subscription to American Poultry Journal.  
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## AN EXPLANATION

The Elba Clipper received a number of local news articles, club reports, parties, etc., Wednesday morning which we were unable to get in this issue of the paper on account of the paper being out of the office when we received Wednesday morning. We make this explanation so that all who are not in this week's paper.

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DISCUSSES STOCK MARKET

The Elba Chamber of Commerce at its regular meeting Tuesday evening at Taylor's Cafe discussed the advisability of establishing an everyday livestock market by auction or private sale in the City of Elba. A few of the advantages of such a market were brought out in the discussions and a committee was named to look further into the matter.

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## PLANS BEING COMPLETED FOR COUNTY 4-H RALLIES

Plans are being completed for the annual 4-H Club rally in Elba and Enterprise, Rally Day in an outstanding event for Coffee County boys and girls and this year a combined attendance of 1,425 members is expected from the 36 clubs. The rally at Elba will be held in the Armory, March 28. Lillian Bryan will preside. The Enterprise rally will be held in the Coffee County High School auditorium there, March 29. Robert W. Fairview Club will be in charge.

Programs will include songs, stunts and playlets presented by various clubs. There will be a parade as high point of the day's activities and the members will attend the picture show.

Local leaders from the various clubs will accompany their clubs, agent, Miss Mamie B. Matthews, home agent, and Miss Fannie Collier, county agent, will be in charge.

"ALABAMA PRODUCTS WEEK" TO BE OBSERVED MARCH 23-30

The several literary and civic clubs of Elba are cooperating in a fitting observance of the week of March 23-30, designated by Gov. Frank M. Dixon as "Alabama Products Week."

Appropriate programs and displays of Alabama farm and forest products will be featured in the observance.

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